Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-20. **(Canceled)**

21. **(New)** A method for operating a vehicle comprising activating, by a user, a mode of operation which is restricted compared with a normal mode of operation of the vehicle, and deactivating the restricted mode of operation again only by an authorized person who does not need to be identical to the user.

22. **(New)** The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the restricted mode of operation is automatically restored even after an ignition has been switched off and the vehicle subsequently restarted, as long as it has not been deactivated again by the authorized person.

23. **(New)** The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein deactivation of the restricted operating mode is preceded by authentication of the authorized person, and wherein the person can be authenticated by an input of a fingerprint or a PIN number or via a central emergency service.

24. **(New)** The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the restricted mode of operation provides a restriction in the driving mode of the vehicle in the form of at least one of a predeterminable maximum speed and a maximum distance which can be traveled by the vehicle during activation of the restricted mode of operation.

25. **(New)** The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the restricted mode of operation provides a restriction in utilization of the vehicle by the user by at least one of locking a glove box and locking a trunk of the vehicle.

26. **(New)** The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein the restricted operating mode comprises a restriction in access rights of the user to person-related data which are accessible via a PC, a navigation system, or at least one other device associated with the vehicle.

27. **(New)** The method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the restriction comprises a pure write protection for non-sensitive person-related data and a write and read protection for sensitive person-related data.

28. **(New)** The method as claimed in claim 27, wherein the restriction provides an invariable initialization of seats, entertainment devices, or other vehicle devices as determined by the non-sensitive person-related data of a predetermined person.

29. **(New)** The method as claimed in claim 26, wherein, during the deactivation of the restricted mode of operation by the authorized person, the

person-related data of all persons affected are released again for reading, writing, or both reading and writing.

30.   (New)   The method as claimed in claim 26, wherein, during the deactivation of the restricted mode of operation by the authorized person, the person-related data of the authorized person himself or herself are released again for reading, writing, or both reading and writing.

31.   (New)   The method as claimed in claim 21, wherein a range of restriction in the restricted mode of operation can be defined by the user under menu control, haptically, or by voice input.

32.   (New)   A computer program with program code for a control device for operating a vehicle in a restricted mode of operation, wherein the program code is designed for performing the method as claimed in one of claims 21-31.

33.   (New)   A data medium with a computer program as claimed in claim 32.

34.   (New)   A control device for operating a vehicle in a mode of operation which is restricted compared with a normal mode of operation, comprising:

a memory device for storing the restricted mode of operation;

an input device for activating the restricted mode of operation by way of a user of the vehicle and for deactivating the restricted mode of operation;

a control device for driving components of the vehicle for adjusting the mode of operation activated in each case; and

an authentication device which is constructed for ensuring that the restricted mode of operation can only be deactivated again by an authorized person via the input device.

35. **(New)** The control device as claimed in claim 34, wherein the input device is constructed for a manual or voice-controlled input, and can be menu controlled.

36. **(New)** The control device as claimed in claim 34, wherein the input device is constructed for reading-in a fingerprint or other biometric feature, and the authentication device is constructed for comparing the biometric features read in with the biometric features of the authorized person.

37. **(New)** The control device as claimed in claim 34, wherein the input device is constructed for reading-in a PIN number, and the authentication device is constructed for comparing the PIN read in with a PIN allocated to the authorized person.

38. **(New)** The control device as claimed in claim 34, wherein the authentication device comprises a communication device for performing the authentication by exchanging data with a service center.

39. **(New)** The control device as claimed in claim 34, wherein the memory device is constructed separately from a memory device for the person-related data and as a non-write-protected read-only memory.

40. **(New)** The control device as claimed in claim 39, wherein at least one of a type and a range of the restricted mode of operation stored in the memory device can be changed via the input device.